

CHEERING THROUGH BIDS GOOD BYE TO BOYS OFF TODAY FOR CAMP UPTON

BRIDGEPORT MEN GOING INTO ARMIES OF U. S.
PRESENT SMILING FACES AS THEY EN-
TRAIN—SHOW INSPIRING SPIRIT.

Braver men never left Bridgeport to take up arms for the good old U. S. A. than the 789 men from the six draft boards of this city today. The occasion was the greatest since this country entered the war. Solemnly was added by the great Red Cross drive, but the spirit shown by the boys departing was most inspiring.

With steady tread they marched in parade from the State Armory to the railroad station where they were entrained aboard a "special" bound for "God knows where." The first lap of their journey will be culminated this evening when they arrive at Camp Upton, Yaphank, L. I. Today's demonstration for the future soldier boys was the first of its kind since the first big contingent of drafted men were sent away last year. The action of the city officials in making provision for hiring a band for the occasion, came about through the efforts of Chairman Sanford Stoddard of Division Board 3.

Fully 5,000 friends, relatives, sweethearts, crowded about the station to say a last kind word to those nearest them. Here and there brave mothers, sisters and sweethearts tried hard to keep their emotions to themselves, but it was impossible, and they wept silently at the thought of departure of their dearest ones. The boys, as a whole, were in a happy mood, as were thousands of others who have started on the same journey in the past.

The Wheeler & Wilson bank kept things lively during the wait for the train to steam out of the station. Some of the men united in singing many of the late patriotic airs that were played by the organization.

The parade, which was the feature of the demonstration and moved from the armory promptly at the appointed hour. In line besides the 789 drafted men from the six local boards, were some 147 men from Division 13, which includes the suburban towns in the immediate vicinity of Bridgeport. A body of 50 Red Cross campaign workers, mostly members of the Minute Women, led by L. J. Argelander, of the Boy Scouts and members of the Jewish Welfare League, followed. Wheeler & Wilson band and a Greek band from New York city

FERRARA IS ARRESTED ON A MURDER CHARGE

BRIDGEPORTER IMPLICATED IN KILLING IN
PATERSON, N. J.—ACCOMPLICES TAKEN IN-
TO CUSTODY IN ALTOONA.

Michael Ferrara, 20, of 836 Pembroke street was arrested in Bridgeport last Sunday by Detective Sergeant Bray of this city and Detective Sergeants Lord and Drew of Paterson, New Jersey, charged with holdup and murder in that city.

Last night his two accomplices, Michael, alias Hans Loman, of 582 Halsett street, and Ed Dennis, alias Demich, alias Deminski, of 247 Brooks street, were taken into custody in Altoona, Pa., by Detective Sergeant Bray of Bridgeport, assisted by Detective Sergeants Lord and Drew of Paterson, and the local police.

The three young bandits are well known police characters around Bridgeport and just before leaving here for parts unknown they are accused of holding up, brutally beating and robbing of \$4 John Ryan, 70 years of age on the corner of Milne street and Washington avenue. A few nights later they held up a Greek restaurant in the East End after which they disappeared.

According to the information in the possession of the police the trio of young desperadoes went to Paterson, New Jersey, where Ferrara had a cousin.

They had not been in the New Jersey mill center many hours before they were up to their old games, the police say, and their first hold up victim netted them but one dollar. A few days later they were "wised" to a man, whose name the police are withholding, who had \$2,500 in currency upon his person.

For days they trailed him in his wanderings about Paterson until at last, getting him into a favorable spot for their work, they held him up at the point of automatics.

This man, however, refused to give up his money without a struggle and a desperate struggle encounter followed in which it is said another man came to the rescue of the victim. The three bandits seeing themselves worsted, used their guns with the result that the two men were left for dead when the holdup men fled upon the approach of help.

For some reason the Paterson officials are very secretive about the identity of the killed and there is some doubt at local headquarters as to whether both men were killed or not. The bandits, however, failed to get any of the \$2,500 carried by the murdered man as they were frightened away before they had time to go through his clothes.

As the investigation of the police progressed it was found that the gang separated after this affair and the trail of one to Bridgeport. The Paterson authorities decided to follow this trail with the result that under the direction of Captain Edward O. Cronan, chief of the Bridgeport Detective Bureau, and the untiring energy of Detective Sergeant Bray the man Ferrara was picked up here last Sunday.

He was arrested by the officials and after hours of interrogation he told of how the other had gone in the direction of western Pennsylvania. Detective Sergeant Bray was detailed by Captain Cronan to accompany the Paterson detectives upon their search and last night was able to spot the

HEAVY TOLL FROM COAST FIRE LOSS LAST YEAR

New York, May 24.—Losses by fire in the United States in 1917 aggregated \$250,753,940, against \$214,530,296 in 1916, the losses this year having exceeded any since the year 1875, with the exception of the San Francisco fire in 1906. These figures were made public yesterday at the 52nd annual meeting of the National Board of Fire Underwriters at the Hotel Astor. R. M. Bissell, president of the Hartford Fire Insurance company and president of the National Board, presided at the meeting, which was attended by 137 prominent fire underwriters from all sections of the country, representing fire risks estimated at \$55,000,000,000.

Otho E. Lane, chairman of the board's Committee on Statistics and Origin of Fires, declared that the per capita loss rose from \$2.10 in 1916 to \$2.42 in 1917. It was a cause of satisfaction, he said, that the government had finally recognized the necessity of protecting vital industries and had created a Fire Prevention Section of the War Industries Board under competent and experienced supervision. Owing to unsettled conditions no attempt was made in 1917 to secure statistics showing fire losses in European cities.

Contrary to the general impression enemy aliens had little or no part in the losses by fire since the United States entered the war.

The board's executive expressed the belief that the increase in fire losses was due to war conditions, which had called for the speeding up of industries, the hasty construction of new factories, congestion at plants, and overtime.

BOY OF FIFTEEN IN ITALIAN ARMY VETERAN OF WAR

Headquarters Italian Army, May 24.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Premier Orlando and General Sani were passing along the front of the famous Arditi, or Italian storm troops, the other day, when the Premier singled out in the ranks a small boy carrying a rifle. The Premier stopped and asked who this boy soldier could be, and General Sani related this story:

During the retreat last October, the twenty-first battalion of Arditi passed westward through the village of Ospiate in the province of Belluno. It was a stirring event for the village, and all the children were in the street to see the soldiers go by, including a pale-faced boy of fifteen, Davide Marcellino, a farm helper for his father. At the sight of the marching men he lad simply threw away his farm tools and joined in the wake of the troops, doing odd jobs for them and being received as a little brother.

But Davide had other ideas, he did not intend to be a privileged little brother but wanted to get in the ranks and be a combatant. He took part in several assaults and developed remarkable expert ability in throwing hand grenades. As a specialist he was in the very forefront of these famous fighters.

"I tried to give him a regular status in the ranks as a soldier," said General Sani, "but there has been difficulty in accomplishing it thus far."

"There will be no more difficulty," said the Premier, touched by the story of the boy's courage and ability. "I ask you to retain him in the twenty-first Assault battalion, as from this moment I adopt the boy as one of my sons."

And the long line of seasoned veterans saw the Prime Minister of Italy step forward and put his hand on the shoulder of the pale-faced boy.

"Davide," said the Premier, "you are now as one of my sons. I expect a letter from you every month. Your position in the ranks is secure and I will see to your future. Meanwhile fight for Italy and be brave."

And again the seasoned ranks stood at attention as the Prime Minister of Italy bent over and in the presence of the whole battalion kissed the boy soldier on the forehead, and then passed along.

SIX MEMBERS OF ONE FAMILY ARE KILLED BY BOMBS

Paris, Thursday, May 23.—One of the bombs dropped on the outskirts of Paris during last night's attack by German aviators killed six members of a family recently repatriated through Switzerland. Ten other persons were injured. The other bombs which were dropped in the suburbs fell on farm land, causing but slight damage.

Circus Slackers Taken in Custody

Ayer, Mass., May 24.—Twenty slackers, including two circus employees picked up in Springfield, were brought over to Camp Deton under guard today and placed in the army. Draft evaders are being rounded up all over New England and reports received here say that others were on the way. Nineteen reached camp yesterday.

Because of the recent drowning of a soldier orders were issued today prohibiting swimming and boating in the Nashua river.

Lively Sendoff For New Haveners

New Haven, May 24.—A lively send-off was given to New Haven's 560 drafted men this afternoon on their departure for Camp Upton. It was the largest single contingent to be sent away from here, and during the assembling on the Central green and along the streets to the station the enthusiasm was marked.

AMERICAN DEAD TO BE HONORED MEMORIAL DAY

Soldiers to Pay Tribute to
Dead Comrades Buried
on French Soil.

FRENCH TO AID
IN CEREMONIES

All Groves Will Be Deco-
rated With Flowers and
Crossed Flags.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, May 23.—(By the Associated Press)—The American dead, sleeping in the soil of France, will receive the homage of the American army on Memorial Day.

Many of those who have given their lives for their country are buried in graves over which shells and bullets are flying, close to the spots where they fell. But wherever they are resting, their comrades will bear them in mind and pay tribute to their memory.

To many Americans now fighting in France Memorial Day heretofore simply has meant a holiday. In a vague way they appreciated the meaning of the decoration of graves by the survivors of Civil War days, but now they regard Memorial Day in a different light, for it means honoring the memory of men they have known, bled with and fought with.

Throughout all the zones in which there are American soldiers plans have been made for ceremonies in which the French will participate in nearly all cases. At one place is a row of mounds under which lie sons of New York. Men of the same regiment will gather there to replace the faded American flags with new ones and deposit wreaths of fresh flowers and others that will withstand time and weather.

Similar ceremonies will take place at the graves of boys from Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Maryland, Connecticut and other states who have been killed in action or have died from wounds. In the same locality roadside graves of French soldiers, buried where they fell in the earlier days of the war, will be decorated by Americans.

At general headquarters all graves of Americans in that vicinity, many of whom died in hospitals, will be decorated with flowers and crossed flags—the Star Spangled Banner and the Tricolor of France. Led by a band, a body of soldiers will march to the main cemetery, where the graves of the fallen are so numerous that they will be held at several localities. Men of the new and the old armies lie there, some in cemeteries exclusively American, others beside French soldiers. The heroes of the air who have given their lives will be remembered suitably by their comrades.

All the other ceremonies will be similar. In the sector northwest of Verdun the American soldiers will take the graves of the fallen to the front. Men of the new and the old armies lie there, some in cemeteries exclusively American, others beside French soldiers. The heroes of the air who have given their lives will be remembered suitably by their comrades.

CROSSLEY SENT TO PRISON FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

J. Harry Crossley, formerly of Bridgeport, pleaded guilty to charges of embezzlement in the Criminal Superior Court this morning, before Judge J. F. Kellogg, and was sentenced to not less than two and not more than five years in prison.

Crossley had previously pleaded not guilty. His case was assigned for trial today at the request of State's Attorney Cummings. Attorney William W. Bent was appointed to represent the former real estate dealer. The five accounts on which Crossley might have been tried were two of embezzlement, two of forgery and one of uttering a forged document.

U. S. ESCADRILLE TO DEFEND PARIS IN THE FUTURE

Paris, Thursday, May 23.—An American escadrille, composed of aviators chosen from among the best American pilots, in the future will help to defend Paris against enemy air raids. Offer of this help was made spontaneously by the chief of the American aviation service and accepted by the French government through M. Dumesnil, minister of aviation.

An official announcement says the American offer was made after a German air raid some time ago. It was proposed to organize an American escadrille especially detailed to defend the French capital. Final arrangements were made today.

PULLMANS NOW CONTROLLED BY U. S.

Chicago, May 24.—The carrier business of the Pullman Co. has been taken over by the government and will become a part of the government system of railroads, according to announcement today by Clyde Runkles, vice president of the company. The government, it is announced, will pay a dividend on the carrier business, based on three years' earnings prior to Jan. 1 last. It is said that the government will not interfere with the Pullman manufacturing business.

IDLERS MUST BE WORKING BEFORE FIRST OF JULY

Washington, May 24.—The far reaching character of the new "work or fight" regulations under which the government proposes to put every man of draft age into some useful employment or into the army, probably will not be fully realized by the country until the effects of its operation appear in every community.

Inasmuch as every case will come up for determination on its merits as the operation of the regulation goes forward, it will become apparent that the scope of the government's action practically is limitless.

The outgrowth of a plan conceived and known as "putting the nation to work," the new regulations probably will be more and more closely applied as the war goes on, or until it becomes necessary to raise the draft age above 31 years. Military authorities are of the opinion now that it will not be necessary to raise the draft age and that the man power of the nation is sufficient if those now of draft age are fully utilized.

The first effect of the new regulations will be to drive idlers to work or into the army. Moreover, it will be the idler's own responsibility to get a useful job before July 1. Then will come the determination of what constitutes useful employments and this, it is pointed out, will come in for closer and closer determination as the war goes on. Employment reasonably useful under present conditions might be by the developments of the war come to be regarded as useless in comparison with the greater needs of the war.

POWDER PLANT ACCIDENTS FEW IN PAST YEAR

The friends of the Kaiser in this country will get some comfort out of the accident at the explosives plant at Oakdale, Penn., where some 60 or more people lost their lives. There is at least the consolation that if any dirty skunk of a spy did it, he is probably where he won't do it again.

The handling of explosives has always been attended with needless accidents even in time of peace. Certain powder factories have had the habit of blowing up regularly. Such materials can be handled with safety, provided care is shown. But reckless or ignorant workers refuse to take precautions. The most deadly materials are carted around in highly congested streets, and thrown around at railroad stations as if they were potatoes.

The matter is vital to our war work, because so much depends on the ability to use a great supply of these deadly materials. The more TNT we can send over to blast the Huns out of their burrows, the fewer of our boys we shall have to sacrifice. And to get a big supply of these materials, we must be able to produce them with a fair condition of safety and few accidents.

The wages paid in this trade are high and people who are willing to take the risk find themselves able to make substantial savings. Considering the enormous amount of explosives that have been turned out the past year, the proportion of accident is small. The spies among us will try to exaggerate it.

The man who handles high explosives at a time like this is doing good patriotic work. The forces in these factories should be carefully picked to exclude those who can't speak English and those of doubtful loyalty. They should be made to feel that they are performing a service of special value, for which they have the gratitude of the whole country.

TRAINING CAMPS FOR NURSES MAY BE ESTABLISHED

Washington, May 24.—Training camps for army nurses may be established as a result of the shortage of nurses at the hospitals here and in France. Secretary Baker recently conferred with Surgeon General Gorgas and members of the army nurse corps regarding the best way of increasing the number of available nurses without drawing too heavily on private hospitals.

The alternative to the establishment of training camps for nurses is to assign apprentice nurses or aides with the graduate nurses in the camp hospitals, thus getting the benefit of their services while they are educated. An early decision of the course to be followed is expected.

SOLDIERS KICK ON FROZEN MEAT

Paris, May 24.—The arrival of American troops has been received with great enthusiasm and gratefulness in France, but the Americans are purchasing meat here, said Senator Chastenet, in criticizing the latest measures of food control of Victor Boret, minister of provisions, in the senate yesterday. He said the government had failed to provide refrigerating warehouses and that for that reason it had been necessary to send back to the United States frozen meat which had been imported.

MISS STINSON LANDS IN SWAMP

Binghamton, N. Y., May 24.—Miss Katherine Stinson will not be able to resume her flight from Chicago to New York until after noon today. The propeller of her plane was broken when the machine turned on its nose as she landed in a swamp on a hill top four miles from the city last evening.

THOSE WHO KNOW BEST ARE QUITE CONFIDENT OF THE FINAL OUTCOME

NEXT FEW WEEKS' RACE BETWEEN HINDENBERG AND PRESIDENT WILSON—WESTERN FRONT OPERATION IN ANTICIPATION.

Edinburgh, May 24.—"We are on the eve of a great German attack," said Premier Lloyd-George in an address here today on receiving the freedom of the city. "Those who know best what the prospects are feel most confident about the result."

Speaking of the time necessary for the United States to prepare for full participation in the war, the premier said that, after all her exertion America at the present moment did not have what was equivalent to one-fifth of the fighting strength which the enemy had received owing to the collapse of Russia. He added that it took time to train and equip armies, and that American help could not be reckoned on for some time.

The premier's statements about the submarine situation were most optimistic. He said that in April the output of shipping for the first time exceeded the losses.

"For the Germans, as well as for us, the next few weeks will be the eve of American help becoming available for the Allies."

"I can honestly say," the premier declared, "that the government has neglected no possible means for finding out whether there is any honorable outlet out of this war, its horrors and tragedies."

Heavy fighting operations on the western front still are in the stage of anticipation. Continuation of the present calm much longer is hardly possible with both sides prepared for a renewal of extensive operations. The Germans are known to have completed their preparations and the Allies are confident in their ability to meet the shock of enemy attacks, wherever and whenever they may come.

What really is going on behind the German lines is uncertain, but it is known that the enemy has large numbers of men along the front from Ypres to Rheims. His artillery is in position and weather conditions have been favorable, but the German leaders are not yet ready to test their fate or, at least, they have given no indication of doing so. The German morale is reported to be much weaker than before the attack of March 24.

Meanwhile the Allied mastery of the air is productive of much damage to German billets, aerodromes, artillery concentrations and other military targets. For more than a week now British and French airmen have been dropping ton after ton of bombs in the area immediately back of the German lines. In aerial fighting the German fliers have been bested and on Wednesday British aviators accounted for 15 enemy machines while losing three of their own.

Raids into Germany continue and British bombing squadrons have again visited Mannheim, on the Rhine, where two fires were caused. An electric power station near Sarbrücken, German Lorraine, was damaged severely and more explosives have been dropped on railroad stations at Metz.

Berlin claims that three American aeroplanes have been brought down the Lys battle field. This is the first indication that American airmen were with the American troops on this front.

Infantry raiding operations and artillery firing is at a minimum along the entire front from Switzerland to the North Sea. Activity on the American sectors has been below normal.

Italy begins her fourth year of the war today. As in France, the enemy withholds his offensive operations heralded as certain some weeks ago. On the mountain front there has been no fighting of moment, while along the Piave the Italians have repulsed another Austro-Hungarian attack against the new bridge head at Cape Sile.

PRINCE ARTHUR HERE TO VISIT PRESIDENT

ARRIVES SAFELY ON BOARD BRITISH CRUISER—TO
LEAD MISSION TO THIS COUNTRY.

An Atlantic Port, May 24.—Prince Arthur of Connaught, son of the duke of Connaught and Strathearn, former governor general of Canada, and a cousin of King George, arrived here today from an English port as head of a British mission to the United States.

The mission made the voyage aboard a British cruiser.

The Prince and his party were met by Assistant Secretary of State Long, Col. E. M. House, Gen. White, head of the British Recruiting mission in the United States; Clive Bailey, Consul General, and other American and British officials.

Washington, May 24.—The mission headed by Prince Arthur, the State Department announced today, is on its way to Japan. It will come to Washington to call on President Wilson.

The Prince's mission to Japan is in connection with the recent appointment of the Emperor of Japan as an honorary field marshal in the British army. He is carrying to the Emperor a field marshal's baton.

The special mission includes the following: Captain the Hon. Joseph St. Clair, master of Sincilar, enquirey to His Royal Highness; Lieut. Gen. Sir William Pulteney, K. C. B., K. C. M. G., D. S. O.; Major the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, M. V. O., aide to Gen. Pulteney; Captain F. Barr, Quartermaster Third Battalion, Royal Berkshire regiment; and four soldier servants.

PALMER SEIZES COTTON STORES

New York, May 24.—A. Mitchell Palmer, Allen Property custodian, announced yesterday through his New York offices that three more groups of corporations involved in the program of supplying cotton to Germany had been taken over as the result of inquiry made earlier in the year by the Bureau of Investigation. Five of the companies in one group have aggregate assets of \$4,000,000. The seizure comprises many millions of dollars worth of cotton in storage in various parts of the country, all of which, the announcement said, had been traced and was at the disposal of the government.

Of the corporations brought under the ban, according to Mr. Palmer's statement, the New England Waste Co., the American Liners Co., the

American Products Co., the Overseas Trading Co., and Wolf & Sons, dealers in splinnable cotton and cotton waste, with offices and mills for the most part in Massachusetts, are owned by Wolf & Soehne. This manufacturing firm is described as one of the largest cotton houses in the world, with branches in England, Switzerland, Italy, China, and other countries.

Francis P. Garvan had been appointed Managing Director of the New York office. Mr. Palmer announced, and, in addition, would continue to direct the work of the bureau of investigation, whose function it is to discover fraud and to make all examinations in reference to reports on enemy property.

William Mosses, in London, became the British riveting champion by driving 4,900 rivets in seven hours and 50 minutes.